



# Whimple News

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Christmas 2014

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# What's On in Whimple

## December

- 5th Over 65's Party – Victory Hall 7.00 for 7.30pm.
- 6th Heritage Centre open for Xmas gift shopping – 11.00am– 3.00pm.
- 6th Orchard Harmony Christmas Concert – Victory Hall – see posters for details.
- 13th Whimple History Society – Annual Christmas Lunch at the Cricket Club, starting at 12.00noon.
- 13th (Saturday) Front Row Club Victory Hall. 7.00 for 7.30pm. 'The Book Thief' See page 46 for details.
- 14th Christingle Service at St Mary's Church 4.00pm. Details page 43.
- 20th Soup and Sarnie Christmas Special Lunch 12.00 for 12.30pm. details page 28.
- 24th Christmas Eve Carols in The Square 7.00pm Details page 34.
- 31st Celebrate the New Year in The Square 11.45pm Details page 41.

## January

- 12th VPA AGM Victory Hall Committee Room, 7.30pm – details page 21.
- 17th Saturday – Wassail - starting at the New Fountain 6.30pm – moving off at 7.00pm. Details page 37.
- 31st Pre-school Quiz and Curry 7.30pm Details page 45.

## February

- 19th The Whimpletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm details pages 11&31.
- 20th The Whimpletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm details pages 11&31.
- 21st The Whimpletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 2.00pm details pages 11&31.
- 21st The Whimpletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm details pages 11&31.



Thank you to all those who supported our MacMillan Coffee Morning on 27th September. We are glad to report the final sum of £179.06 was raised.

Thank you for a splendid effort.

**Delia and Lis**



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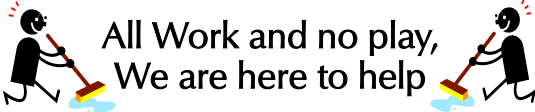
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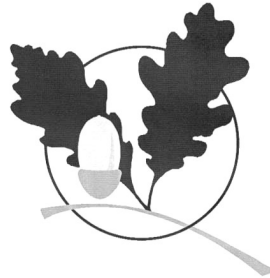
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*References for all past projects available*

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## **MUSIC DATES**

**Sunday 14th December - Maggie Reeday 4.00pm**

**Thursday 18th December - The Windham Singers**

**Friday 19th December - Thick as Thieves**

**New Year's Eve Party - Stiletto (Tickets Only)**

**Sunday 18th January - Evolver 4.00pm**

**Friday 30th January - Kiss This 9.00pm**

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# Ed the Ed

Welcome to the Christmas 2014 Edition of your Whimble News – it only seems like yesterday when we published the 2013 edition with a photo of John Griffiths being presented with the East Devon award for ‘Best Kept Village’. And now we have a village faced with a lot of change – pubs for sale, Post Office closing but moving to the shop... life will continue, and there is a lot of good that comes from change, especially for the people involved. I know that Gill from the New Fountain is looking forward to retiring from a very busy 24/7 occupation and taking some very well deserved time for herself, as are Jim and Alison as new grandparents and owners of a camper van so they can just go when the mood takes them – fantastic!

We in the shop are poised like coiled springs ready to take on these new responsibilities – one moment we are Retail Personal Shoppers; now we are to become highly trained Post Office representatives (so I now spend a lot of time in the PO doing work study on Jim and Alison – still have to catch Jim at work yet!) AND, dear reader, Trainee Coffee Bar Baristas! A whole new world of Double Skinny Latte with a Double Shot (and that is only the Earl Grey Tea!) awaits us. At the moment, with all the changing round of the shop layout, I have resorted to tying a length of string to me so I can find my way back to the till. Black Friday came and went for the Whimble Stores recently – we had good crowd control measures in place and there weren’t any ugly scenes as shown on the national news.

This week the current Mrs H and I joined many villagers at the Sean Lakeman and Kathryn Roberts’ gig at the Victory Hall run by the ever excellent Villages in Action. What a brilliant night it was – superb music, and Kathryn has a wonderful voice with some great songs, and a relaxed and easy way of chatting with the audience...well done and thank you to the VIA team.

There is a wonderful eulogy to William Lockyear, the first man from Whimble to be killed in World War 1, on pages 24 and 25. He enlisted in August and was killed in the November – read his story and remember him and all the others.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy magazine, then please either leave your contribution with Jim and Alison at the PO or send it direct to Bob Scanlan on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by Monday 12th January. Writing of the Scanlans, we all wish Pam a speedy return home for Christmas from hospital, and a return to better health.

The Whimble News Team wish you and your families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Ed H

Thank you to everyone who has sent me cards or good wishes during my extended stay in hospital. It really helps me to know you are thinking about me. Hopefully, I will be back home for Christmas.

**Pam Scanlan**



# Whimble Post Office News



I am sure most of you by now have heard the news that we are going to retire next year. We are thrilled that Jenny and Mark are keen to have a Post Office counter in the store, and I am sure it will secure the future of both the shop and the Post Office within the village. Of course we will update you as soon as we have a date for this move , but we are expecting it to be April /May time.

Just in time for us to hit the road in our camper van!

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Thank you so much for supporting Children in Need day with us, Bat (Fat) Man really appreciated all the comments and donations that came his way on that day .

We have been able to send £136.09 to this well deserving charity.

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We are pleased to say that a cheque for £250 has been sent to The East Devon Day Hospice Appeal. This has been our book money for the past few months.

~~~~~

Here are the all important last Christmas Posting dates:

## Air Mail Overseas

|              |                                                         |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed 3rd Dec  | Asia, Far East, Japan, New Zealand.                     |
| Thur 4th Dec | Australia                                               |
| Fri 5th Dec  | Africa, Caribbean, Central & South America, Middle East |
| Mon 8th Dec  | Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece                          |
| Tues 9th Dec | Canada and Poland                                       |
| Fri 12th Dec | USA                                                     |
| Sat 13th Dec | Western Europe (excluding Greece, Poland)               |

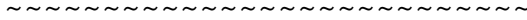
## And in the UK

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Thur 18th Dec | 2nd Class including signed for.     |
| Sat 20th Dec  | 1st Class including signed for.     |
| Mon 22nd Dec  | Parcelforce 48                      |
| Sat 23rd      | Special Delivery and Parcelforce 24 |



Of course we would recommend you post well before these dates if you possibly can.

Please remember to pack your parcels well, try to make them waterproof, write the recipient's name and address clearly, use the post code, and write your details on the reverse of the parcel.



Thank you for making the lottery terminal a great success, the popularity of it has been most welcome and remember a scratch card inside a Christmas cracker could make it a Christmas to remember for someone!

Also our gift cards make a very welcome gift and can be used in a variety of stores including Amazon.

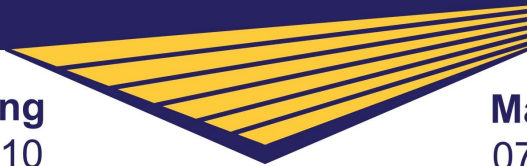
Finally Jim and I would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout 2014.

We wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas,  
and a Healthy New Year.

Jim and Alison.

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# ROBIN HOOD

**VICTORY**  
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**19TH—21ST**  
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**SATURDAY-**  
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**2pm**

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# The Latest News From Your Local Pre-School



**WHIMPLE**  
*Pre-School*  
& Toddler Group

## New Term...

Its been a lovely half term, all the new children have settled in really well. We have been busy observing the changes in nature and using our senses to explore them. We created some fantastic firework pictures by flicking paint on black paper, drizzling glue and sprinkling lots of glitter and making lots of firework noises while we did them. We have been making pots out of clay. We made some amazing 'slime' out of washing liquid, paint and glue - we found we could do so much with it - mould it, stretch it, cut it, we even froze some! We had our traditional harvest soup lunch where the children cut up vegetables, helped to make the soup and made our own bread rolls which were delicious! The children invited their families in to share the lunch with us and we were joined by Reverend Chris Martin who very kindly played his guitar to accompany the children singing our Autumn and harvest songs.

## Anything To Share?...

We would love to welcome visitors from our community into pre-school to share things with the children to increase their experiences - if you think you have something to share that may be of interest to us and would like to come in, please call Jo Sibley on 07794 652549 or 01404 822183. It could be a craft activity, story telling, some interesting objects from travelling, a profession or a local interest for example.

## Thank You...

We would also like to say a big thank you to Laura Baker and all the previous committee members for their amazing support, time and effort given to preschool over the last few years - you were all fantastic and the pre-school has benefitted hugely from your efforts. We are pleased to welcome Cathy Culshaw as our new Chairperson leading a new committee and look forward to a successful year ahead.

## Information...

We have spaces at preschool for children aged from 2 ½ to school age, please contact Jo Sibley on **07794 652549** to find out more about us. Please visit our website - **[www.whimplepreschool.com](http://www.whimplepreschool.com)** for more information and to find out what we have been up to!

### *Dates to Remember...*

*Baby & Toddler Group*  
*Every Wednesday*  
*2-3.30pm, in Pre-School Room*  
*(term time only)*

*Last Day Of Term*  
*Friday 19th December*

*Quiz & Curry*  
*Saturday 31st January*

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# Whimble Parish Council

## Flood Risk Management

The Flood Risk Management team at Devon County Council would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support over the last few years. In particular, providing valuable information on the various flooding issues and instances of property flooding in your area enabling us to write up more detailed Flood Investigation Reports. All the reports we have published to date, including the 2013/2014 winter storms, are available to view and download online on our website:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/flood-investigations-reports-and-studies/>

We have also recently updated and redesigned all of our flood risk management web pages and have created a page where residents and business owners can report internal flooding to their property:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/report-flooding-to-property/>

If you have any questions please contact us at [floodrisk@devon.gov.uk](mailto:floodrisk@devon.gov.uk).

**Flood Risk Management Team**



## FURTHER COMPUTER SKILLS COURSES

The Parish Council is planning to sponsor more computer skills courses, following the success of the basic skills courses run earlier in the year. These will build on the skills and knowledge gained from the earlier courses.

The courses will be held on a Wednesday evening between 4.00pm and 6.00pm, in one hour sessions, over a period of six weeks, at the Whimble Primary School and we hope to commence in January/February 2015.

If you are interested in attending such a course, then please contact me on either 823079 or 07802 3100497, or email me on:

**[alanmcarthur47@gmail.com](mailto:alanmcarthur47@gmail.com)**

**Alan McArthur,**

Vice Chairman, Whimble Parish Council

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# Devon Historic Churches Trust Bicycle Ride

To all of you who so very generously sponsored us on the cycle ride in September – a BIG Thank You! Without your generosity we would not have the inspiration to tackle the hills around this area!



Initially I thought I would be cycling on my own, but as the date neared my daughter Emma offered to keep me company which was great. By the time we set off on the Saturday morning her sister-in-law, brother-in-law and their 20 month old son came as well! The weather was good for cycling – no downpours or blazing sun which we have experienced in years gone by and we enjoyed visiting the churches of West Hill, Tipton St John, Ottery, Escot, Talaton and Whimble. Two of these provided us with the extra pleasure of being able to see the floral decorations for weddings to be held in them later that day. I think we managed to burn off enough calories to justify the pub lunch we fortified ourselves with at Talaton (we ran out of time to get to our finish and back to a Whimble hostelry!)

Mike Ellingham and Miranda cycled a similar route that day and also wish to thank all their sponsors. Between us we managed to raise £574.50 so, well done everyone who gave. Half of this figure will go to St Mary's Church Whimble and the other half to the Devon Historic Churches Trust to whom we apply for grants when we are in serious need of help with the church maintenance.

**Jane Clements**

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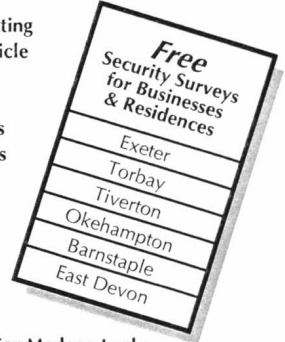
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For your Diary  
***Christmas Concert***  
7.30pm Saturday 13th December  
Ottery St Mary Parish Church

*Celebrating 110 years - 1904 -2014*

### Christmas Concert

Ottery's annual Christmas Concert will be held on Saturday 13th December in the beautiful Parish Church with its wonderful acoustics – the perfect opening for your Christmas celebrations.

This year the main choral work will be Dvořák's 'Mass in D'. While being famous for composing many symphonies and concertos, including the popular 'From the New World' symphony, Dvořák is possibly less well known as a composer of oratorios and this beautiful Mass. The choir will be accompanied by organist, Andrew Carter and the Society Orchestra, led by Sarah Greinig. The orchestra will also be playing Haydn's Symphony No 50.

You will have the opportunity to join the choir in a selection of traditional carols as usual and the choir will perform some less well-known carols for you to enjoy. These will include John Rutter's new carol 'Christ is the Morning Star'.

At the end of the concert you are invited to join us in a festive glass of wine or soft drink and a Christmas mince pie (all included in the price of your ticket).

Tickets are available from *Tourist Information* in Broad Street, Ottery St. Mary (telephone 813964) or from Society members. Adults £10.50 Children £4.50.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

In November 2014 Ottery St Mary Choral Society celebrated 110 years as an active community choir.

To celebrate this auspicious occasion we took a slightly longer coffee break in our rehearsal for the Christmas concert to enjoy a delicious birthday cake made by our multi-talented singing cake-maker Pip Gascoigne-Pees.

More information about the society and forthcoming concerts can be found on:



[www.otterystmarychoral.org](http://www.otterystmarychoral.org)

Contact: **Annie Bassett** - Chairman - 823331 or [osmcs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:osmcs@hotmail.co.uk)

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# WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Our last event of the year was a very enjoyable and informative talk by Paul Rendell on The Secret Nature of Dartmoor. We had a record attendance for this talk and it was so good to see so many turn out on a miserable evening. The talk was very well illustrated and although most of us had some knowledge of the flora and fauna on Dartmoor, everyone certainly went away with a lot more knowledge. Fortunately Paul has a number of other talks that he gives so we will be looking to bring him back next year. Many thanks go to Doreen for arranging this excellent evening.

We are already planning ahead for next year and we are looking to organise a trip to Marwood Hill Garden. This is a 20 acre private garden with three lakes tucked away in North Devon. There are tea rooms there as well as a plant centre. The trip, on Saturday 2nd May 2015 will be run in conjunction with the Ottery St. Mary Garden Club so that we can maximise the size of coach we take. Therefore, if you are interested, early booking is essential. Once again Doreen Staddon is very kindly coordinating our side of things so please contact her either by email on [doreenstaddon@btinternet.com](mailto:doreenstaddon@btinternet.com) or telephone 823594.

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday 12th January 2015 at 7.30 in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. As always, all are very welcome to attend especially anyone who would like to join our Committee – we are always pleased to welcome new faces on the Committee!

Don't forget that details of these events, together with all our activities are on our website and this can be found at: [www.whimplevpa.org.uk](http://www.whimplevpa.org.uk)

**Paul Wilson**, Hon. Secretary.

## Whimple Cricket Club

We are already starting to think of the 2015 season. Our Colts section goes from strength to strength with about 60 boys and a few girls (we want more girls to get involved) regularly coming to our Friday night practice throughout the summer. We have now arranged winter nets for the Colts and they will be run by our qualified coaches and start on February 6th at the Colin Tooze Centre. There will be different start times for different age groups and, as a result of a grant from the David Shepherd Trust and a subsidy from the club, the seven sessions will cost a very reasonable £10.00.

Senior nets will be held at the Cricket Centre in Exeter starting Sunday 1st February from 8.00pm to 10.00pm and run for six weeks. Once again the club will be subsidising these so the overall cost will be £10.00 or £3.00 per session. We hope to encourage over 14s to attend these nets.

For further information contact **Jon Silk** on 822389

# District Councillor's Report

Gosh! My time as your elected councillor for the present session is nearly finished – where has it all gone? I have thoroughly enjoyed being your councillor and I feel that I have made one or two contributions to the quality of the communities of Whimble and Talaton. On the way I have made a goodly number of friends and acquaintances and these have added to the quality of my life and involvement in the two parishes. As a consequence of this experience I intend to stand again next May.



In the meantime please find below details of some recent developments at The Knowle. The Week magazine has a column entitled boring but important which is a good description of what I report. Happy Christmas and New Year to everybody.

## **E.D.D.C Green Spaces Strategy**

This was proposed and accepted at the October Cabinet meeting. The report set out the benefits of adopting a holistic approach to the Council's management of its green spaces, especially in urban areas. The value of green spaces was acknowledged, in contributing to the overall health and well being of residents, and the importance of their role in contributing to local economies by attracting visitors. The benefits of adopting this strategy are:

- (1) helping to coordinate and improve decision making in relation to their management and:
- (2) in finding ways in which green spaces within the district can be improved.

## **NHS Consultation and the Local Hospitals**

There is concern about the action taken at Ottery St Mary Hospital to set up stroke beds at the expense of more general care beds. There are to be 15 stroke beds, 6 clinical and 3 medical beds. There has been a 15% increase in the incidence of strokes in the ageing population of East Devon and the RD&E can no longer cope. It needs an ancillary site until it can build up facilities and specialist staff. This placing of beds at Ottery is, however, only until next year. The speculation is that the long term future of Ottery, along with Axminster, is closure with facilities concentrated on Honiton, Seaton and Sidmouth leaving Ottery as only being a 'Hub of Health'.

Dr. Cox opined at the Friends of Ottery Hospital meeting last week that this demonstrates the increasing move in the NHS from health cure to health enhancement. At the last Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting anger was expressed at the current changes to local hospitals. Also more consideration should be given to the cost and time burdens incurred by the patients and their relatives as a result of the reduction in local hospital services. The new Devon CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) have been asked to re-consider the current in-patient bed provision in the light of the growing pressure on the RD&E and the provision of minor injury units in busy tourism periods.

## The Financial State of the Council

The Head of Finance presented a summary of the Council's financial position. This has indicated that the Council's current financial state is good. The General fund balance, predicted at £3,462k, is being maintained at or above £2,800k - £3,600k. The Housing Revenue Account, predicted £4,703k, is maintained at the adopted level of £2,100k with £2.9m in a volatility account to cope with overspend. There is also sufficient Capital Reserve to balance this year's Capital Programme. However there is a predicted shortfall of £ 397k in 2015/16 and this means a reduction of services on top of all the government dictated cuts.

## Waste Management Developments

The new waste recycling contracts will be up for tender in March 2016. This has prompted the newly formed Waste Management Think Tank to issue a new recycling and waste management contract questionnaire to the Councillors in order to ascertain the aims and aspirations of the members of the EDDC and Parish Councils. The questionnaire addresses issues like the length of the new contract, which materials should be collected for recycling, frequency of collections and whether to use a five or four day a week service. The results of the questionnaire will influence the procurement process for the new contract

At the Environmental Think Tank meeting last week, after over-viewing the questionnaire, it was decided that 'waste into energy' is the direction that EDDC should be going in. The consensus of members at the Think Tank meeting was that a 70%/30% split between quality of the service and cost was the ideal option. There was also much discussion about the fluctuation in recycling prices and this issue did temper the decision on the quality and affordability of waste collection and management.

In terms of the questionnaire, the members were in favour of a 7-10 year option, adding cardboard to the collection, moving to a fortnightly food waste and recycling collection and considered the possibility of a dedicated nappy collection service.

**Councillor M Gammell**

## GREETINGS FROM EXMOUTH

Tom, Katy and Alfie Howard would like to say a big 'Thank you' to everyone who sent cards and best wishes for their move to Exmouth. We are especially grateful to all our neighbours in Whiteway Close who helped so much on the day of the move, and leading up to it, by taking all our junk to the re-cycling centre, making cups of tea etc.

We are sad to leave Whimple but Exmouth is great too, and we have already bumped into six familiar Whimple folk in the first week here. We are enjoying being by the sea, and are trying to resist having fish and chips for tea every day.

# William Lockyear

100 years ago a man from Whimble called William Lockyear died near Ypres fighting in the First World War.

A Remembrance Service was held in St. Mary's Church on Sunday 9th November to remember all those who had died in recent wars. As part of that service a eulogy to William, who had died 100 years ago to the day, was read by James Harris a member of Whimble Scouts.

Here is that eulogy:

William Lockyear was born 27th June 1891 and in the 1911 census he was shown as a motor mechanic living at Hand and Pen with his parents. He enlisted for three years in Exeter on the 27th August 1914, less than a month after the outbreak of war and started basic training at Aldershot the next day.

No one knows why he enlisted, perhaps he felt it was his duty, perhaps he thought it was time to move out of the family home. It could be that he went to Exeter with a group of friends who joined up together. Did he think he was signing up for an adventure? Possibly pushing the Germans back out of Belgium. Did he think he would be home for Christmas?

He joined the 3rd Cavalry Division which was formed at Windmill Hill Camp at Ludgershall in early September.

On the 6th October he sailed from Southampton. After some delay due to suspected submarine activity in the English Channel, he arrived at Ostende on 8th October and proceeded to Bruges. The next day he was probably fighting in 'The Antwerp Operations' followed by 'The Battle of Langemarck'

According to signals sent by his commanding officer this is what happened in his last few days.

## November 7th

All quiet last night.

Counter attacked at 9:50am.

Captured one officer and 71 men belonging to the Saxon Corps

Officer stated that a larger force had been directed to attack Ploegsteert Wood

Fighting continued throughout the day

By nightfall wood was clear of enemy

That night the enemy attacked again 'showing disregard for casualties'.

## November 8th

The eastern edge of Ploegsteert Woods is held by our troops

A few of the enemy appear to have installed themselves in some houses outside the wood with machine guns.

The heavy guns of the Third Corps were successful in obtaining 4 direct hits on some German guns.



## November 9th - (exactly 100 years before the Remembrance Service)

Enemy still holds houses at Bols de Ploegsteert to the east of Ploegsteert Woods

Houses heavily shelled

Counter attack postponed until this morning

Remainder of the line re-established

The Brigade counter attacked the Germans who were in occupation of some houses just outside the woods

One trench and some farm buildings were recaptured and a number of Germans bayoneted

The Germans then counter attacked but were repulsed with heavy loss, which was mainly due to our machine gun fire.

It is thought that it was sometime during this episode that William was shot through the leg and died.

In January 1915 'The Dead March' rang out from St Mary's Church Whimble.

I do not know where he was buried but, on the 10th October, I visited the memorial at the Menim Gate where William Lockyear is remembered.

William was the first from Whimble to give his life. There were, of course, many more, all of whom we remember today.



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# Whimple Stores

Thank you for all the support offered to us in connection with the proposed move of the Post Office. We are quite scared by the extra responsibility but we are also really excited for Jim and Alison. Feel free to talk to either us or Jim and Alison if you have any concerns, but there are unlikely to be any changes until April or May next year.

In the meantime we intend to start moving things around a little in the shop to utilise all of the shop space. We hope to make the space more open and ideally we would like to add some tables and chairs so that we can offer tea and coffee.

Business is definitely healthier for us but we are still not always getting the stock levels right. We have found it difficult to judge how many croissants to cook and we were getting a lot of waste. We now only usually bake at weekends and Fridays. If you know you want an order, please let us know the night before and we can bake extra to avoid disappointment.

If you want to order the excellent quality beef or lamb from Dartmoor Farmers please let us know on the Friday before a Tuesday delivery. If you want to order fresh fish please phone Frank on Tuesday evening for a Wednesday delivery. If you want to order other meat from Westhill Butchers, there is a price list in the shop.

Just a reminder for people that our fruit and veg comes from Dart Fresh and where possible we try to buy local or British produce. Our bread comes daily (except Sundays) from a company that buys from Shauls Bakery and lots of us are now enjoying the delicious GI loaf which is a low GI granary loaf.

We have pasties, and cakes from them but we also buy pasties and pies from Chunk and Peck & Strong who both use quality ingredients and care about the environment. Our milk and cream mainly comes from Ashclyst Dairy who are a few miles away. Their products are organic and delicious.

As last year we will be taking orders for Christmas fruit and veg, milk, bread and other groceries. If you need anything specific, please feel free to ask and if we can source it we will. We can also access a wide range of delicious pies, pasties and cakes, so please ask to see a brochure and we can place an order. We will be open Christmas Eve and can have your order ready for collection so why not beat the supermarket queues and shop locally with a mince pie and mulled wine.

**Mark and Jenny**

822316



# Whimple Victory Hall

## *Christmas Special Lunch*

*by the Soup and Sarnie Team*

*12.00noon for 12.30pm*

*on Saturday 20th December*

*Come and Join us*

*Bring your own wine, soft drinks will be available*

*To book your place ring Ali on 822724 or Den on 823660*

*The next Soup and Sarnie Lunch is on Sat 31st January 2015*



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# WHIMPLETONS PANTOMIME FEBRUARY 2015

You will see an advert for 'Robin Hood', the new Whimbletons pantomime for 2015, in this mighty magazine. Tickets will be on sale at the Post Office from early January, and you will be delighted to see that we have kept our prices at the same level as previous years.

We will be unleashing 'Robin Hood' on these dates -

- Thursday 19th February at 7.30pm. - with special prices of £4.00 for adults and £2.00 for children
- Friday 20th February at 7.30pm. - £5.00 adults and £3.00 children
- Saturday matinee 21st February - **note earlier time of 2.00pm.**
- Saturday evening 21st February - at 7.30pm.

We will have a bar for all performances, with teas and refreshments provided by local organisations. There will be amazing raffle prizes, breath-taking scenery, live music, and a fantastic script with the majority of the cast not relying on artificial stimulants! We look forward to seeing you there.

**Ed H** Chairman, Whimbletons

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# A Merry

## Christmas opening hours

|                              | <b>St Mary's<br/>Church Special<br/>Services</b> | <b>Post Office</b> | <b>Whimble<br/>Stores</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Wednesday December 24th 2014 | 11.30pm midnight communion                       | 9.00am-12.30pm     | 8.00am-12.00pm            |
| Thursday December 25th 2014  | 11.00am Short Family Service and Communion       | Closed             | Closed                    |
| Friday December 26th 2014    |                                                  | Closed             | 9.00am-11.00am            |
| Saturday December 27th 2014  |                                                  | 9.00am-12.30pm     | 8.00am-1.00pm             |
| Sunday December 28th 2014    | 11.00am Holy Communion                           |                    | 9.00am-1.00pm             |
| Monday December 29th 2014    |                                                  |                    | 8.00am-6.00pm             |
| Tuesday December 30th 2014   |                                                  | 9.00am-1.00pm      | 8.00am-6.00pm             |
| Wednesday December 31st 2014 |                                                  | 9.00am-4.00pm      | 8.00am-12.00pm            |
| Thursday January 1st 2015    |                                                  | Closed             | 9.00am-11.00am            |
| Friday January 2nd 2015      |                                                  |                    | 8.00am-6.00pm             |



## From the Whimble



# Christmas

(normal if blank)

| Whimple Surgery | Ottery Surgery | New Fountain Inn                          | Thirsty Farmer                | Milestone Garage |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
|                 |                | noon-2.00pm<br>6.30pm-11.00pm             | noon-12.00pm                  | 7.00am - 8.00pm  |
| Closed          | Closed         | noon - 2.00pm (no food)                   | noon-2.00pm (no food)         | Closed           |
| Closed          | Closed         | Normal Hours (no food)                    | closed                        | 8.00am - 8.00pm  |
|                 |                |                                           | noon-11.30pm                  | 7.00am-9.00pm    |
|                 |                |                                           | noon-11.30pm                  | 8.00am-9.00pm    |
|                 |                |                                           | noon-11.30pm                  | 8.00am - 8.00pm  |
|                 |                |                                           | noon-10.30pm                  | 7.00am-9.00pm    |
|                 |                | noon - 3.00pm<br>6.30pm-12.30am           | noon - 1.00am                 | 7.00am - 8.00pm  |
| Closed          | Closed         | noon - 3.00pm<br>6.30pm-11.00pm (no food) | closed                        | 8.00am - 8.00pm  |
|                 |                |                                           | noon-2.30pm<br>6.00pm-11.00pm | 7.00am-9.00pm    |

# News Team



## Have you or any of your family ever sung in Whimble School Choir over the last 10 years?

Yes, the choir celebrates it's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015.

To mark it's success, I am planning an anniversary concert, and would like to invite any previous members back to take part.

The likely date is Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, and will probably be a workshop for returning singers + evening concert. It would be great to have as many former members back as possible, please help us to celebrate.

If you are interested, please get in touch with me at;

[emmap@whimble.devon.mg41.net](mailto:emmap@whimble.devon.mg41.net)

I would also like to hear from any who played in ARC, which is 10 yrs old this term and who can still remember how to play a recorder.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Emma Palmer

## Christmas Eve Carols

7.00pm in the Square  
(in Church if wet or too cold)

Musicians – ARC, other instruments  
please ring Emma Palmer on  
823083 music available in advance.

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# Irene Carter



In the August/September edition of your Whimble News, we announced the retirement of Irene Carter from her role with the Victory Hall. We are pleased to include a photo of members of the Village Hall Committee (David Myers, Ali Tierney and Ed H) presenting Irene with Garden Vouchers in recognition of her valuable work over the last 20 or so years. The Vouchers were paid for by kind contributions from all the organisations that have used the Hall and worked with Irene. Their details are recorded on the plaque presented to Irene in our picture. Irene would like to thank them all for their generosity, and is already planning how to spend these in her beloved garden.

**Ed H**

## *The Harvey School of Ballet*

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# Whimble History Society

## Saturday 17th January 2015 - Wassailing

This season's Wassailing will start at the New Fountain Inn at about 6.30pm for the usual 'rehearsal'. The assembled company will then move off at about 7.00pm to Wymcott for the first Wassail ceremony, courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. I. Hardcastle.

The procession will then proceed up Church Road to Lower Woodhayes Orchard for the second Wassail ceremony. The procession will then move back to The Square, via Dince Hill Close, where the procession will gather near the tethering stone to remember the Society's first chairman, John Shepherd.

The procession will then continue to the orchard adjacent to Knowle Cross Farm for the final ceremony of the evening, courtesy of Jim and Mary Chard.

The last port of call will be at the Cricket club for traditional Wassail refreshments (a small charge will be made).

We urge everyone to enter into the spirit of the evening by wearing traditional dress and bringing 'instruments' that will make sufficient noise to waken the apple trees and ward off any evil spirits in them.

Xmas shopping opening times for the Heritage Centre are:- 29th November and 6th December from 11.00am until 3.00pm.

### FIRST TWO VERSES OF THE WASSAIL SONG

(We always sing the first two verses of the Wassail song, copies of which are handed out on the night. Here is your very own copy to bring with you! You can now practice your singing over the next few weeks!)

A-Wassail, a-wassail! The Moon she shines down;  
Our apple s are ripe and our nuts they are brown,  
Whence thou mayest bud, dear old apple tree,  
And whence thou mayest bear, we sing unto thee.

Chorus.....

With our wassail, wassail, wassail!  
And joy come to our jolly wassail!

O apple tree prosper, bud, bloom and bear,  
So we may have plenty of cider next year.  
And where there's a barrel, we hope there'll be ten,  
That we may have cider when we come again.

Chorus.....

With our wassail, wassail, wassail!  
And joy come to our jolly wassail!



The Otter Vale Friends of Hospiscare will be putting on an Old Time Music Hall at the Institute, Ottery St Mary, on Saturday 6th December. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £5 and will be available from the Hospiscare shop; Pam Joy 813820; and Margery Whittington 813606.

This will be an evening of music, laughter, dance and song, featuring local entertainers, with Laurie Palmer as MC. There will be refreshments available at the interval; a raffle and the evening will end with a sing along.

The audience is invited to dress in period style, if they wish. There will be a prize for the best costume.

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Wassailing 17th January 2015

## Wanted...

a Prince or Princess for The Whimble  
Wassail on 17th January

To enter the competition to be  
selected please submit an A4 poster  
advertising the event-

**Where?** Assemble at The New  
Fountain Inn at 6.15pm

**When?** 17th January 2015

The competition is open to any child  
living in the Whimble area, aged  
between 9 and 13.

Posters to be delivered to The Jays  
The Square by December 19th.



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**Tim Wright**

**Lee Maddicks**

**David Drew**



# New Year's Eve 2014

**Come and join us in the Square at around 11.45pm on New Year's Eve  
Bring candles to light your way. Hear the church clock chime midnight**

**The church bells will be rung to welcome the New Year**

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## The Children's Society

The Christingle service at St Mary's Church, Whimble will be on Sunday 14th December at 4.00pm.

To help raise funds for this valuable charity there will be a **cake stall** at the back of the church. Anyone wishing to help provide items to sell or willing to purchase some tasty morsel please come armed with goods and/or money!

The charity was founded in 1881 by Edward Rudolf, a Sunday school teacher, and the partnership with the Church has been of central importance ever since.

The current chair of trustees is the Bishop of Truro, Bishop Tim Thornton. The society works closely with the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, who are presidents of The Children's Society.

It also works with Bishops and senior clergy across the country. Its partnership working extends to Church of England schools and to the networks of children's work advisors and youth officers.

But it would like to do more. They want to work in partnership with every single parish in the Church of England, who they hope will be inspired to support their work in prayer, through giving and by volunteering.

Their goal is to work with all people who share their values, whether Christians from other denominations, people of all faiths and none.

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When?

**Saturday 31st January 2015**



Where?

**The Victory Hall, Whimble**



What time?

**Doors open from 7pm for a 7.30pm start**

How much are the tickets?

**£10 per person**

Team size?

**Maximum of 8 people per team**

Where can I get tickets?

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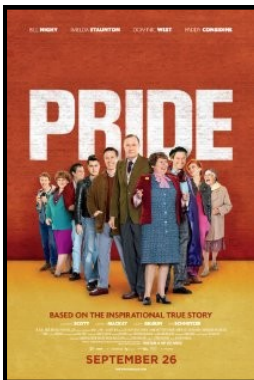
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As always our children have been busily involved in a range of activities. The weather stayed dry for long enough to allow us to pick up our apples in the orchard area. The pupils worked in their school teams and, along with parental help, they filled 41 bags of apples. Well done and thank you to those who supported this event.

Each class has held a class assembly where their parents have been invited to watch. The other children in the school have really enjoyed them, so well done to all involved.

Now we are heading into our Christmas frenzy with practices for our nativity and Christmas concert in full flow.

Our next open music assembly is on Monday 1st December at 2.00pm in the hall. We hope to see you there.

**Carole Shilston**

## The Great West Run

At the end of the summer term Mr Brown set up a running club for Exeter's Great West Run. We ran six miles over the summer holiday and we ran six miles over the autumn half term; every Wednesday night we ran around the parish field and into the cricket pitch twice.

On Sunday the 19th of October we met at 8:30 in the morning at the Triangle car park in Exeter and then walked to the schools meeting area. Joseph and Max from Mrs Killen's class led an interesting warm up. Then we all went to the starting line, we were told to follow a teacher and then we were off and we ran the last mile; including the training runs we ran 13 miles in total. As we crossed the finish line we received a medal and a goody bag. We had a brilliant day!

By **Lizzie Hill**. (Year 4)





# Whimble School's Murder Mystery at Exeter cathedral.



Classes 4 and 5 went to Exeter cathedral to take part in a medieval murder mystery on the 3rd October 2014. We got there by using the train. There were six groups with six actors performing to us. Classes 4 and 5 were split into mixed groups. The actors were different medieval characters. The murderer was Thomas the leader.

It was great fun we all enjoyed it.

By **Mollie Copp** yr5 and **Connor Thompson** yr6

## George's Marvellous Medicine

Oak class has had a person in to do with 'George's Marvellous Medicine'. We have been building creations out of marvellous materials like wood, metal and plastic. We had six frames to put our art work in. We painted a background for each frame. The artist's name was Peter. Peter helped us use drills, saws and nuts and bolts. Each of the groups made a different part of the story. If you go to the Northcott theatre our frames are red.

By **Tegan, Adam and Lewis** (Year 3)



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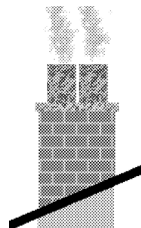
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# Whimble

## The Saga Continues .....

Scene: A field just to the West of Whimble. Mr Percyman stands waiting. With a throaty roar, a new Range Rover thunders into the field, sliding to a halt near Percyman.

A large man squeezes from behind the wheel, and, wheezing and panting, he joins Percyman.

Percyman: "Hiya Boove, new motor mate?"

Boovis: "Oh hiya Perce, no belongs to the missus mate, can't stand pink really, gets grubby round the sites. She'll wash and polish it again later on, gives her something to do."

Percyman, offering Boovis a bag of gobstoppers : " Well how shall we do this one mate, where's the site plan?"

They lean over the plan, Boovis points out several open spaces with tree symbols, and lights a cigar.

Percyman: " 'ere what's all this nonsense with trees, cant have that , and what's this, a playing field! Can't stand all this open space, should be houses, time for the planning gain card mate."

Boovis: "Ok, looking at it quickly, we could get fifty more houses on those tree sites, twenty five each mate."

Percyman: "Yeah, easily, so what shall we offer them. I know how about a Public Bog,, that should do it."

Boovis: " Doesn't sound quite enough to me, I reckon we need something else mate, how about we throw in a bus stop as well, that'l clinch it."

Percyman: "OK, that's decided then, tell you what, we'll send them a nice Christmas tree in a pot, Make them feel we're on their side."

Boovis, climbs back into the Range Rover, and blasts out of the field, Percyman crunching a gobstopper, wipes mud from his face, and soon follows.

**Hugh Roberts**



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As usual Whimble WI members have been very busy. Our social lunches have proved popular and The Thirsty Farmer was the venue for the October get together. There will be a Christmas lunch at the Talaton Inn in December. We were disappointed that the speaker from the Exeter museum was unable to come to our October meeting, however we are lucky that we have many talented members and Lucy Channon stepped in to give a very interesting talk entitled "Tomorrow's Heirlooms".



We entered the WI Devon Federation skittles tournament and our team won their first round against Brampford Speke A much more relaxed evening of social skittles was held amongst our own members at The New Inn, Broadclyst.

'Hot off the press': Our skittles team also won the second round of the county skittles competition against Woodbury WI.

The speaker at the November meeting was John Brazier whose subject was the evacuation of British children during WW2. Entitled 'Operation Pied Piper' we heard about the mass evacuation of city children both to the British countryside and to Commonwealth countries. Especially interesting were John's personal experiences of being an evacuee.

The December meeting will be our usual Christmas party with a 'bring and share' supper and plenty of fun and laughter.

We are always happy to welcome visitors who might be interested in joining Whimble WI. Contact **Pam Scanlan** on 822262 or **Ann Bowden** on 823450



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## WHIMPLE CHURCH

[www.whimplechurch.org](http://www.whimplechurch.org)

Our **Advent Carol Service** is on Sunday 30th November at 6.30pm. As this is the fifth Sunday it is also our Mission Community Service. Our **Christmas Carol Service** is on Sunday 21st December at 6.30pm. Both are traditional in style with readings and a mix of congregation and choir sung carols.

Our **Christingle Service** this year is at 4.00pm on Sunday 14th December. This is an informal service particularly suitable for children, when we celebrate Jesus as The Light of the World.

This year's **Christmas Celebration Service** is at 9.30am on Sunday 21st December. This is another informal style service designed to appeal to all ages. Join us for a Bring and Share Breakfast from 9.00am

There will be a **Midnight Communion** service at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day at 11.00am we have our **Family Service with Carols**. There are also a variety of other services at Talaton and Clyst St Lawrence and The Link (Churches 4 All magazine) and Christmas cards distributed around the village list the full details.

Please welcome our **Carol Singers** again this year as they sing in part of the village on 16th December from 6.30pm, to raise money for St. Petrocks, the organisation in Exeter which helps the homeless. If you would like to join them to sing or play a musical instrument please contact Gerri Turner on 822587. We would also welcome non-singers to help us with the collection

The Parochial Church Council on behalf of Whimple Church wish you a joyful Christmas and New Year.

Thank you to everyone for all your support during 2014. Events such as the Morning Coffee, Men's and Women's Breakfasts and Annual Fete have all been well attended and have all provided an opportunity for fellowship.

Once again St. Mary's Church is indebted to the ladies of Whimple who have kindly made cakes for, and served at the Saturday morning coffee and cakes in church from May to September. Needless to say that without our customers the whole venture would be pointless, so it is a big thank you to everybody for their support. The mornings have proved to be most enjoyable and I know that a lot of people miss the stroll to the 'coffee shop' on a Saturday for a chat.

Although making a profit is not our main objective, we have been able to hand over more than £1,200 to the Church treasurer and with the money that Margaret made from her preserves etc. he is a very happy man! Unfortunately we do need more helpers for next year otherwise our 'season' will have to be shorter, so if you have not been involved before and would like to find out what it entails, please give me a ring.

We are holding a Coffee and cake morning in church on 7th February for the flower fund and to welcome any new flower arrangers ,no experience required.

We are holding a Coffee and cake morning in church on Feb 07 for the flower fund and to welcome any new flower arrangers ,no experience required.

This year's **Christmas Fun Day** for primary school aged children will be on Saturday 13th December in the Victory Hall from 9.30am until 12.30am. There will be Christmas crafts, songs, games, stories and lots of fun! Meanwhile parents can do those important pre-Christmas jobs that they want to do without having children in tow! Prior booking is preferred booking forms are available from the Post Office the Church or you can book a place by ringing **Dianne Goodwin** on 823476.

## Relief Staff Required

Whimple Pre School need relief staff to cover for holidays, training and sickness. Applicants must be a level 2 qualified Early Years Practitioner or equivalent. Hours will be on an as and when basis between 8.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

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# Christmas time for pets



Christmas time, full of joy and cheer with the presents under the tree and Christmas dinner smelling better than ever! We, as vets, want to make sure that you and your pets have a fantastic Christmas without a trip to the practice.

Cats are often more fascinated by Christmas trees than us and like to climb and explore. Make sure your tree is very secure and any glass tree decorations or those with sharp edges are well out of the way of your intrigued feline. Cats also can enjoy a nibble on tinsel. They tend to eat lengths of stringy material which can then cause a concertina effect on the intestines. This can be very harmful and requires surgery to treat, so keeping tinsel and string out of harm's way is much safer!

What Christmas is complete without chocolate? Unfortunately many dogs, and sometimes cats, also believe this to be true! Chocolate can cause vomiting and diarrhoea and in larger doses, liver failure and can be fatal. The higher the cocoa content the more the risk so keep those expensive dark chocolate truffles out of the way of any investigative hounds in the house! Be wary of chocolates on the tree and wrapped in presents within reach. Remember a small number of extra treats can lead to rapid weight gain which can take a long time to lose.

Dried fruit is also a risk to dogs and can cause renal failure so keep Christmas pudding, mince pies and Christmas cake away from low tables or other places your crafty hound may be able to get to.

For some of us, it can all get a bit much at these festive times. We may like our house being filled with family, friends and music but not all our pets do. For some, the bustle and noise can be very stressful. If you have a timid pet who enjoys the quiet, make sure there is somewhere peaceful that they can go to not be disturbed. They may prefer to have their food and litter tray in a hidden corner.

Most importantly, have a wonderful Christmas with your furry friends and if you have any worries or suspect your pet has eaten something they shouldn't, don't hesitate to call your vet for advice. Merry Christmas!

**With thanks to Vale Vets**

## Pink Friday

I recently held a breast cancer charity evening at my house, The New Clock, Whimple. It was a very successful evening thanks to the wonderful support of the local people and businesses. We had a fun evening in the process, eating cake and drinking wine! We managed to raise £223.30 for a worthy cause which has some impact on many of our lives in some way.



I would like to thank Janet Seward - Pithayes Farm, Vicky at the Thirsty Farmer, The Star of India, Joshua's, Dillys Florist, Wine shop and Otter Nurseries for their very generous donations which made the raffle possible.

**Angela Trevallion**

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# WARTS UPDATE END OF YEAR 2014

Hello and welcome to all new and existing members of W.A.R.T.S (Whimble Against Rising Tariffs). Our aim is to periodically secure the services of the cheapest oil provider to deliver to members within the EX5 Post Code. I'm pleased to report our numbers are now over 180 households.

Our last order date was 17th November:

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**We ordered 35,850 litres+ for 62 drops.**

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**The dearest was 49.50ppl.**

Our next order is on Monday 26th January.

## PLEASE BE AWARE:

We are unable to quote an advanced 'price per litre'; as the *'number of drops ordered'* (on that day) PLUS the *'price per litre' (on that day)* determines the *'end price' (on that day)*. However, we can assure you, past experience tells us that our prices have consistently beaten any individual household prices over the past six years.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2015:

**Monday 26th January 2015**

**Monday 23rd March 2015**

**Monday 27th July 2015**

**Monday 2nd November 2015**



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\*Registration to include: Name/Address/Postcode and Telephone Number

# A Politically Correct Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...How to live in a world that's politically correct? His workers no longer would answer to 'Elves', 'Vertically Challenged' they were calling themselves. And labour conditions at the North Pole, were alleged by the union, to stifle the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished without much propriety, released to the wilds, by the Humane Society. And equal employment had made it quite clear, that Santa had better not use just reindeer. So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid were replaced with four pigs and that just looked stupid!

To show you the strangeness of today's ebbs and flows, Rudolf was suing for use of his nose. He went to John Lewis, in front of the Nation, demanding a million in compensation.

So...half of the reindeer were gone and his wife, who suddenly said she'd had enough of this life, joined a self help group, packed and left in a whiz, demanding from now on that her title was Ms.

And as for gifts...why, he'd never have guessed that making a choice could cause such unrest. Nothing of leather, nothing of fur... Which meant there was nothing for him or for her. Nothing to shoot or that made lots of noise. Nothing only for girls or only for boys. Nothing that claimed to be gender specific, Nothing that's warlike or non-pacifistic.

No chocolate or sweets...they were bad for the tooth. Nothing that seemed to embellish the truth. And fairy tales...while not yet forbidden were, like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden. They raised the hackles of those psychological, who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.

No football, no rugby...someone might get hurt, besides - playing sports exposed kids to dirt. Dolls are thought sexist and should be passé. and computer games rotted your entire brain away.

So Santa just stood there, dishevelled, perplexed, he just couldn't figure out what to do next? He tried to be merry he tried to be gay, but you have to be careful with that word today. His sack was quite empty, it was flat on the ground, nothing acceptable was anywhere found.

Something special was needed, a gift that he might give to us all, without causing a fight A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision, everyone everywhere and every religion. Every race, every hue...and yes, even you! So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth...

**MAY YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES, ENJOY PEACE ON EARTH**

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| <b>Whimble Mothers Union</b>                                                |        |
| Margaret Burroughs                                                          | 822257 |
| <b>Whimble Pre-School &amp; Toddler Group</b> (whimblepreschool.weebly.com) |        |
| <i>Chair:</i> Cathy Culshaw                                                 |        |
| <i>Playleader:</i> Jo Sibley                                                | 822183 |
| <i>Toddlers:</i> Linden Best                                                | 822595 |
| <b>Whimble Womens Institute</b>                                             |        |
| <i>President:</i> Pam Scanlan                                               | 822262 |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Ann Bowden                                                | 823450 |
| <b>Whimble Over Sixties Club</b>                                            |        |
| <i>Chairman:</i> Arthur Iball                                               | 822905 |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Beryl Iball                                               | 822905 |
| <b>Whimble Recreation Trust</b>                                             |        |
| <i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground:</i> Roger Smith                              | 822244 |
| <b>Whimble Village Produce Association.</b>                                 |        |
| <i>Vice Chairman,</i> Paul Wilson                                           | 822744 |
| <b>Whimble Football Club</b>                                                |        |
| <i>Chairman:</i> Ian Stephenson <i>Secretary:</i> Julian Johnson            | 822639 |
| <b>Whimble Tennis Club</b>                                                  |        |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Roddy Bridge                                              | 822057 |
| <i>Treasurer:</i> Adrian Rushworth                                          | 823276 |
| <b>Whimble Cricket Club</b>                                                 |        |
| <i>Booking Secretary:</i> Jonathon Silk                                     | 822389 |
| <b>Whimble Victory Hall</b>                                                 |        |
| <i>Chair:</i> Maria Wallis                                                  | 823992 |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Dennis Calver                                             | 823660 |
| <i>Booking Sec:</i> Ali Tierney                                             | 822724 |
| <b>Whimbletons</b>                                                          |        |
| Ed Hitchcock                                                                | 823194 |
| <b>Wasters of Whimble</b>                                                   |        |
| Jenny Sanders                                                               | 823015 |
| Alison Betts                                                                | 823967 |
| <b>St. Mary's Bellringers</b>                                               |        |
| <i>Captain:</i> Roger Algate                                                | 822480 |
| <b>Whimble Scout Group</b>                                                  |        |
| <i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry                  | 822844 |

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